

574.0673

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SUBSPECIES OF NORTH
AMERICAN MAMMALS.

BY E. W. NELSON.

I am indebted to the courtesy of Mr. Outram Bangs, Curator of Mammals, Museum of Comparative Zoology, for the opportunity to describe the snowshoe rabbit named below. The squirrel is a further illustration of the extraordinary variation in Mexico in the genus *Sciurus*.

Lepus bairdi cascadenis subsp. nov.

CASCADE MOUNTAIN SNOWSHOE RABBIT.

Type from Roab's Ranch, near Hope, British Columbia, Canada, No. 1886, adult ♂, Museum of Comparative Zoology; collected by W. C. Colt, June 12, 1894.

Geographic distribution.—Cascade Mountains of southern British Columbia from the vicinity of Hope on Fraser River, south along the east side of the mountains at least to central Washington.

Subspecific characters.—Color of upperparts most like *bairdi*, but darker and more of a dusky reddish-cinnamon brown with the largest and most strongly marked blackish rump patch of any of the snowshoe rabbits; head dark reddish cinnamon, contrasting with the darker or more dusky body; ears long as in *bairdi*; skull much like that of *L. a. columbiensis*.

Remarks.—This form becomes white in winter.

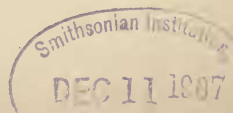
Sciurus socialis littoralis subsp. nov.

PORT ANGEL SQUIRREL.

Type from Puerto Angel, Oaxaca, Mexico, No. 71,322, adult ♀, U. S. National Museum (Biological Survey Collection); collected by E. W. Nelson and E. A. Goldman, March 11, 1895.

Geographic distribution.—Coastal hills of southern Oaxaca near Puerto Angel.

General characters.—Generally similar to *S. socialis* but upperparts of body including tail distinctly more whitish while the nape patch averages darker rufous; tail with a broad band of dark, rich rufous along entire length next the skin and showing conspicuously along middle of underside;



on upper side of tail the rufous heavily overlaid by a zone of black and latter covered by a strong outer wash of whitish; tail averaging broader and more bushy than in *socialis*; underparts of body and under side of legs deep, rich rufous; base of ears behind with a bright patch of white; a forward extension of nape patch surrounds the eyes; top of head in front of nape patch darker and more iron gray than back; cheeks and under side of head whitish.

Skull.—Similar to that of *socialis*.

Measurements of type.—Total length, 526; tail vertebrae, 273; hind foot, 69.

Remarks.—The present form is based on a series of seven specimens, all from the type locality. So many squirrels have been described from Mexico that it may appear superfluous to name another. However, the present series agree so uniformly in their much paler colors when compared with the large series of typical *socialis* in the Survey collection that they evidently represent a well-marked local form. The absence of a rump patch at once distinguishes them from *cocos* which reaches a point on the coast of Oaxaca not far to the northward. To the south *socialis* occupies the coast country about Salina Cruz, Oaxaca, while a specimen collected in the mountains half a day's journey on horseback directly inland from Puerto Angel is evidently referable to *socialis*. This leaves *littoralis* with a restricted distribution. It is an intergrading form between *cocos* and *socialis* and nearly as pale as the former, but has lost the rufous rump patch characterizing that subspecies.